

Abstract

A telecommunications system, apparatus and method are described that are capable of providing an alphanumeric speed dialing service. Basically, the apparatus includes a database having a table of stored alphanumeric speed dialing codes (e.g., "MOM", "D", "BILL", "GB", "HOLLY") and stored phone numbers that were provided by a calling party (subscriber). The apparatus also includes a controller that is capable of receiving an alphanumeric speed dialing code (e.g., "MOM") from the calling party and is further capable of comparing the received alphanumeric speed dialing code (e.g., "MOM") to the stored alphanumeric speed dialing codes (e.g., "MOM", "D", "BILL", "GB", "HOLLY") and if there is a match then enabling a connection between the calling party and a called party (e.g., mother of the calling party) at the stored phone number associated with the received alphanumeric speed dialing code (e.g., "MOM"). The apparatus and alphanumeric speed dialing service can be network-based or telephone-based.

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